

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Launch 2015-2016 Scale-Up Program

Overview: Funding will assist Iowa educators in implementing a new Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Launch program by providing tuition for the two Lead Teachers required per site to attend the 3-day PLTW Launch Lead Teacher Summer Core Training, the first year's PLTW Launch Participation Fee for 2015-16, and a \$2,000 PLTW Launch materials allowance.

Grade Levels: K-5

Program Summary

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a nonprofit organization and the nation's leading provider of K-12 STEM curricular programs. PLTW's world-class, activity-, project-, and problem-based curriculum and high-quality, teacher professional development model, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate partners, help students develop the skills needed to succeed in our global economy. PLTW's rigorous and relevant curriculum is collaboratively developed and consistently reviewed and improved by PLTW staff, teachers, university educators, industry experts, and school administrators. It leverages an innovative, project-based approach, fostering collaboration and building critical thinking skills.

What does the project provide?

- Educator training tuition is provided for the two Lead Teachers required per site to attend a 3-day **PLTW Launch** Lead Teacher Core Training at either Iowa State University College of Engineering in Ames, Iowa or at The University of Iowa College of Engineering in Iowa City, Iowa (includes parking and lunches). This training will enable Lead Teachers to return to their sites and conduct Building-Level Teacher Core Training to any and all educators that intend to teach a Launch module at the site. It is important for sites to choose the very best educators early on for this program.
 - PLTW Launch Lead Teacher Core Training begins at 8 a.m. on Day 1 and ends at 5 p.m. on Day 3 for both training locations:
 - Iowa State University College of Engineering, Ames, Iowa
 - Monday, July 6 – Wednesday, July 8
 - Thursday, July 9 – Saturday, July 11
 - Monday, July 13 – Wednesday, July 15
 - Thursday, July 16 – Saturday, July 18
 - The University of Iowa College of Engineering, Iowa City, Iowa
 - Monday, July 20 – Wednesday, July 22
 - Beyond Lead Teacher Core Training and Building-Level Teacher Core Training, all educators planning to teach any of the K-5 PLTW Launch modules are required to be trained and certified in the specific Launch modules. The module certification process is required for all teachers implementing a PLTW Launch module and is conducted through module-specific online, interactive trainings on our learning management system.
 - We encourage the PLTW Launch Lead Teachers to work together with their site administrators to plan the Building-Level Teacher Core Training according to their implementation strategies and goals. This group should also plan for the time that each educator will need to complete her or his online certification process for each PLTW Launch module they plan to teach (~3-10 hours per module).
- PLTW Launch participation fee** for the site's first year (2015-2016). The second year of the site's PLTW Launch program, applicants will be required to pay the annual \$750 program participation fee prior to the start of the 2016-2017 academic year.
- \$2000 PLTW Launch materials allowance

What is required by the applicant in order to implement this program?

- PLTW Launch is customizable and can be offered in any combination of elementary grade levels. There are (24) 10-hour modules aligned to grade-level standards (4 per grade level) that create a thematic unit of engineering, biomedical science, and computer science curricular components.
- Applicants have the flexibility to introduce the modules that they want, when they want, and at the grade level they want. The cost associated with PLTW Launch depends on how many modules and at what grade levels the applicant chooses to introduce the program. The **PLTW Launch Price Sheet** can be utilized to determine your particular costs based on your plans for program implementation. PLTW recommends starting the ordering process early to ensure the lab is fully equipped before the new school year.
- Review the PLTW **Guide to Successful Implementation** PDF and visit the **PLTW Register Now** webpage. Applicants must also review and understand the **PLTW Launch Program Requirements**.
- If not already registered, applicants must register through the PLTW online registration process. Select a District Administrator and School Administrator (for each school) to serve as the main points of contact with PLTW and be responsible for providing and maintaining accurate data and information. Upon registration, the District Administrator will receive an email with a link to the **PLTW Agreement**. Registration does not commit the applicant to implement PLTW, but it does let PLTW and the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council know the applicant's level of interest in implementing the program and receiving the Scale-Up Award.
- Review the PLTW agreement with the school board, superintendent, and legal department to ensure all parties are aware of district and school responsibilities. After obtaining the authorized signatures, email the agreement to the PLTW School Support Team.
- Execute an Applicant Agreement with PLTW as a part of the Scale-Up Award before attending training and using the \$2000 PLTW material allowance.
- Select two educators to attend PLTW Launch Lead Teacher Training. Educators should be excited to teach a project-based curriculum and meet the requirements of the PLTW agreement. Once the educators are selected, the School Administrator will register the educators in the PLTW database.
- Register for Launch Lead Teacher Training. Once the educators are added to the PLTW database, educators can register for Launch Lead Teacher Training. Educators must successfully pass all required online PLTW Launch Readiness Training modules prior to attending Core Training, and upon completion of training, fulfill responsibilities to conduct Building-Level Teacher Training. All educators must complete an online, interactive certification process for each module they wish to teach.

Website to View Program and Standards Alignment: https://www.pltw.org/sites/default/vfiles/Launch%20Standards%20Alignment%20Document%202014_15.pdf

Program Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jEiBf33RM3s&index=2&list=PLcCTPHuIP75L4OB5bdEiFmryWewqxbXRT>